

WOMAN AT THE POKER TABLE

She Doesn't Know Much About It as a Rule but There are Good Women Poker Players.

"THERE used to be a prevalent notion among poker players," said the gray haired young looking man in the club smoking room, "that women could not play poker. Possibly it is true that most men have that idea now, but while it may, perhaps, answer for a general proposition, there are some women who can play the game remarkably well. It is natural enough that the women who play for amusement merely, and who confine themselves to a small limit game, should be poor players for nobody can really learn how to play the game as it should be played without going a good deal deeper into it than that. Therefore, as most women do just that thing, good players are scarce among the members of the sex.

"There are women, however, as I have found out within a comparatively short time, for I formerly held to the opinion myself, who probably began playing as the others do, but who have gone beyond that first stage, and who play table stakes for really important money. And some of these are clever players as I have seen them play against. I don't mean the outlaws of the sex when I say this. Most men know of instances in which women who have fallen into men's ways of living have developed some skill in the game, but that isn't what I'm talk-

ing about. I mean women of good standing in society, of more than ordinary pecuniary means, and of unassailable character in the sense in which the word 'character' is usually applied to women.

"Some of these play with their husbands or brothers, and their friends, in mixed parties of men and women. Such parties are, of course, of the most picturesque and the woman's reputation for skill is not widely known. I have played in a few such games and have been surprised at the playing.

"But quite lately I have come to know of the existence of two or three ladies' poker clubs at which a stiff table stakes game is played, right here in New York, and as I have played elsewhere in the same game with some of the members of these clubs I have a fair notion of what the play really is when the women get by themselves.

"Never mind how it was that I came to know about this club and the curious way in which it was broken up. I certainly cannot tell the name of the woman who told me the story; nor, indeed, can I mention any of the members of the club in such a fashion that they could be identified, for everyone of them is alive now and of more or less prominence, right here in New York City. They'll have to go by their first names in this story, and I wouldn't swear to those first names being correct.

"It came about at an afternoon tea that Imogen gave. Imogen is a stock broker's wife, whose entertainments are greatly admired in her circle and at whose teas there are always eligible men—and, therefore, desirable women as well.

"It happened that the men were late, and the women got talking cards. Belle told of a game in which her brother had lost heavily, and Ethel of one her husband had played in where he had held some unusual hands. One story led to another, Winifred, Ruth and Grace each had some experience to relate of their own play or that of some friend, and the interest in the subject grew until Ethel's proposal that they have a weekly game of their own was hailed with acclamation.

"They agreed at the outset that it should be real poker—no small limit game, such as they had played with their husbands and brothers—but the sort the men played when they were alone. They were all women to whom a matter of \$50 or \$100 was not of extreme importance, so it was not particularly desperate gambling when they started in at table stakes, each one taking \$10 worth of chips when they began their first game.

"That first game must have been a rather curious one, according to the account I had of it. They had to find out for themselves the difference between coming in on a small pair in a limit game and doing the same thing in table stakes, and some of them paid rather dearly for their education on that point. The luck ran pretty nearly even, however, for the first few sittings, so that no one of them was severely hit. The trick of opening the pot for as much as was in it they learned more readily, and in the course of a season's play they had all developed a fair amount of skill.

"My own impression is that the weak point in their game was probably in their computation of odds. So far as I have noticed, a woman's game is more likely to be deficient in that particular than in any other. She will risk her money against heavier odds than a man will unless he sees that the returns in case he should win are going to be equally heavy or heavier than the odds against his winning. However, the woman's intuition often proves more correct than a man's judgment, as to the proper time to take a chance, so perhaps it even up in the long run.

"They had some curious experiences in that season, such as any group of players is likely to have in a long series of games. One of them is worth telling as a proof that it is not safe to assume that a woman is ignorant of the finer points of the game simply because she is a woman.

"They had agreed from the beginning that the game should be played strictly. There should be no allowance for errors, and no deviation from the rules. In case of dispute the pot should be laid aside, a statement of the facts written out, and an appeal made for judgment to a certain man whom they all recognized as an authority. 'Tisn't necessary to say who that man was.

"In the case of this particular happening I am telling about, there was a jackpot of \$2 on the table, and Ruth opened it for the size of it. Imogen passed and Ethel stayed. Grace made it six to play and Belle dropped out. Winifred stayed for the six and Ruth made it six more.

"I should say that this happened after the club had been playing together for some months, and they had increased the size of the game. They were buying twenty pieces to begin, and by the time they had each bought two or three times, as often happened, there would be a lot of money on the table.

"On this occasion Ethel had a considerable pile in front of her, and she stayed for the additional nine. That brought it to Grace again, and she raised it ten. Winifred dropped and Ruth raised it ten more. It was too hard for Ethel and she threw down three jacks. Grace stood for a minute as if tempted to raise once more, but finally she made good and called for one card.

"Ruth also called for one, and three in \$10 without looking at the card she had drawn. Grace, on the other hand, looked carefully at hers and seemed to be about to throw her hand away, but looking sharply at her adversary she smiled a little and put up her entire pile.

"It made a raise of about \$18, but without an instant's hesitation Ruth covered the money and spread her cards on the table, face upward. She had four kings, an ace and a seven spot and was just reaching for the pot when Grace showed her hand.

"She had drawn for a straight flush and had made a pair of treys. I guess that's good against a six card hand," she said coolly. "You must have forgotten to discard when you drew," she continued as she raked in the chips, and that was in fact the case.

"There was no possibility of disputing Grace's claim to the money, and to do Ruth justice she did not attempt it. The understanding had been too clear as to mistakes, and as to the strict adherence to rules, for any argument to be made. The other members all recognized this fact, and although the play made considerable talk, as was natural enough, no one questioned Grace's right to the money.

"As a matter of fact, however, this particular incident was the beginning of the end of that particular club. Grace had been recognized almost from the first as a particularly keen player who was more often winner than any one of the others. She was an unmarried woman of perhaps 20 years of age, living on an allowance from her father, who had married a second time. Moreover, she was a blonde of so pronounced a type as to arouse suspicions of peroxide. I do not, myself, see what all that has to do with the story, but the other women in the club all seem to consider it of real importance.

"Although the others refrained from criticism in Grace's presence, there was a growing or less discussion of her play in this instance when she was not around, and the general feeling was that while she was absolutely within the rules, she was at least close to the line of sharp practice in playing a certainty against a palpable mistake. And this semi-hostile feeling, once established, grew into a suspicion, vague at first, but more and more positive as the games continued. The others noted that she won rather steadily. They saw that when she drew one card she filled with curious frequency, and before long they were looking eagerly for some indication which they never discovered, of dishonest play.

"Just about the time these suspicions had reached an acute stage the club met at Imogen's house for a session, and she, after her guests had assembled, asked permission to introduce her friend Charlotte to the game. Charlotte, she said, had just arrived from Boston, whence she had come for a visit, and being extremely fond of poker, and a good player withal, was anxious to join the game if the others were agreeable. 'I know,' said Imogen, 'that we have an understanding that no outsiders are to be admitted, but this seems to be an exceptional case, and if you are willing, I would be glad to have her play.'

"It was hardly to be expected that any objection would be made to a proposition like this, and as a matter of fact, none was made, so Charlotte was brought in and introduced.

"She proved to be an excellent player, closely observant of the details of the game, and of the manner of the others' play, but there was nothing about her that seemed to call for any special notice from the others, so it was remarked by some of the players as curious that Grace should seem to be scrutinizing her as closely as she was scrutinizing everyone present.

"Nothing was said, however, for probably half an hour, when suddenly Grace exclaimed: 'Oh, I thought I could not be mistaken. I remember Charlotte as one of the actors at the last dramatic entertainment given by the Harvard students. She was then as charming a lady to all appearances as she is now, but at that time we were given to understand that she was one of the Harvard students doing a female impersonation act. That certainly cannot be the case now. Imogen would never play such a trick on her guests. Pray, may I inquire what your sex is? It may not be an important matter to anybody but yourself, but it is well to have such matters understood.'

"It was like a thunderbolt. She spoke with sarcastic indignation, and looked around her as she spoke, as if expecting the other guests to be as indignant as she, or at least as much surprised as she had reason to be. Instead of finding what she expected, she saw only confusion on the faces of all present. Imogen and Charlotte were perhaps the most abashed, as might have been expected, but the others were all unmistakably guilty in appearance.

"No one spoke for a few seconds and then Charlotte started to go, but Grace stopped her with a gesture. 'It is not worth while, after all,' she said. 'Evidently the other ladies in the room are fully informed, and as for me, I have no curiosity whatever as to whether you are a man or a woman. But as I can by the possibility continue my acquaintance with my so-called friends who have been privy to a trick of this sort, evidently intended at my expense, I will relieve you of all my presence.'

"Thereupon she made a very effective exit, none of the others finding an appropriate word to say. After she had left the room, however, Charlotte leaned back and said, with a long breath, 'By Jove! She is simply magnificent.'

"Now here is one of those curious intricacies of female thought that possibly explain why women are good players when men don't see how they can be. There is not one of the other five players in that game who does not firmly believe that Grace played crooked, and four of them are sympathizing heartily with Imogen in her distress over the determination of her brother Charlie to marry Grace. They do say that the youngster had a hard time getting her to listen to him at first, but that now she seems likely to marry Imogen's brother."—N. Y. Sun.

THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL OFFERINGS A MINE OF VALUE-GIVINGS

Price reductions that will make selling active—that will make the week memorable—that will make people talk—that should attract every buyer of dry goods in this city. This announcement points the way to the safest, surest, best and most economical dry goods mart in Salt Lake, where you'll find a spread of bargains worth coming miles to take advantage of.

Silks and Dress Goods at Prices Seldom Seen

ECONOMY NEVER MADE A STRONGER APPEAL. VALUES ARE SIMPLY EXTRAORDINARY—RANGE FOR CHOOSING IS IMMENSE.

LOUISINE SILKS.
LOUISINE SILKS, 19 inches wide, beautiful soft quality, very brilliant finish. Here is a gem of a silk, because it will launder, and is too soft to break, and will be a cool silk in hot weather, suitable for ladies' gowns or shirt waists, suitable for misses' wear, not alone because of the quality, but the low price as well. They come in all dark colors and evening shades, also black and cream, and usually sell at 85c. Monday they will sell at the price within reach of all, per yard..... **65c**

PONGEE SILKS.
Another lot of 50 pieces of Pongee just arrived. They can't come fast enough. We have found it almost impossible to keep pace with the demand, so far. These are all of the best imported and domestic qualities, and prices will be on Monday.
60c quality, 19 inches wide, Monday and all week, per yard..... **49c**
70c quality, 23 inches wide, Monday and all week, per yard..... **59c**
85c quality, 27 inches wide, Monday and all week, per yard..... **65c**
\$1.50 and \$1.25 quality, 36 inches, Monday and all week, per yard, \$1.25 and..... **98c**
69c—WHITE JAPANESE SILK.
36 inches wide White Japanese Silk, elegant quality, firm and lustrous, and suitable for entire gowns, shirt waists, children's dresses and many other uses. A rare bargain and well worth \$1.00. Monday and while it lasts, we will sell it at the low price, per yard..... **69c**

IN OUR DRESS GOODS SECTION.
20 Pieces, all colors, fine all-wool suitings, suitable for skirts and suits.
20 Pieces, all colors, fancy all-wool suitings, suitable for skirts and suits.
20 Pieces, all colors, assorted all-wool serge, 38 to 40 inches wide, qualities sold at 75c and 85c—
To be closed out at 46c a yard.
ALL WOOL VOILE.
15 Pieces new plain and seeded voiles, 45 to 46 inches wide, all-wool, fine crisp quality, in blue, tan, gray, brown, cream and black; grades sold at \$1.00 and \$1.25 a yard—
To be closed out at 69c a yard.
FINE FRENCH VOILE.
25 Pieces fine imported all-wool voiles, including new lattice voiles, the very best grades, crisp, beautiful in color and quality, come in blue, tan, gray, brown, green, cardinal, garnet, pink, cream and black, 44 inches wide; grades sold at \$1.25 and up—
To be closed out at 83c a yard.

ESTABLISHED 1864

F. Auerbach & Bro.

ONE PRICE TO ALL NEVER UNDERSOLD

EXTRA VALUES IN THE SEASON'S MOST WANTED

WASH FABRICS.

We expect to attract you by these prices, then surprise you at our counters with the quantities and kinds comprising these specials:

Fifty pieces of Arnold's Organies. A great favorite this season for class dresses, on the most artistic designs on white and tinted grounds, floral and Dresden patterns, value 20c; special for this week at, a yard..... **13c**

Twenty pieces skeleton striped imported Organies, sheer and beautiful, in designs and colorings, now in great demand for class dresses—can't be matched at 20c; special for this week, per yard..... **22c**

Thirty pieces, Organie Francaise and Printed Grannies, in the choicest floral effects, priced by the 40c and 45c; special for this week, per yard..... **24c**

MORE CROWD-BRINGING SPECIALS IN

WHITE GOODS.

That the best White Goods values in the city are to be had at Auerbach's was strongly attested by the throngs of eager purchasers who stamped this department the past week. This will be another rousing week; these offerings fully explain why:

A White Silk Persian Lawn, instead of 22c, this week, per yard..... **14c**

A fine Sheer White Cotton Persian Lawn, instead of 33 1/2c, this week, per yard..... **22c**

A 45-inch wide White French Lawn, instead of 40c, this week, per yard..... **24c**

A Mercerized White Persian Mull, instead of 50c, this week, per yard..... **34c**

A White Linen Crash for Shirt Waist Suits, instead of 60c, this week, per yard..... **42c**

A May Sale of Summer Underwear.

FOR LADIES AND CHILDREN. A GREAT VALUE-GIVING EVENT TO BEGIN MONDAY. TREMENDOUS PRICE CONCESSIONS. ARE THE FEATURE OF THIS SALE. THE SPECIAL SALE REDUCTIONS ON OUR WELL KNOWN LOW PRICES MAKE THIS A VERY IMPORTANT EVENT, THE LIKE OF WHICH IS SELDOM CHRONICLED.

LADIES' UNION SUITS.

Ladies' low neck, sleeveless, knee length Union Suits, lace trimmed on bottom and tape drawn neck and arm holes, best 40c value, all sizes, on sale at..... **25c**

Extra quality low neck, sleeveless Union Suits, with deep lace on bottom, all sizes, on sale, special at..... **39c**

Ladies' fine Harvard make Union Suits, high neck and long or high neck and short sleeves, in knee or ankle length, all sizes, best 75c grade, on sale, this week at..... **63c**

LADIES' VESTS AND PANTS.

Ladies' Jersey Ribbed, high neck and short or long sleeve Vests, and knee length Pants; all sizes; the best 25c grade ever offered, on sale at..... **19c**

Ladies' best "Harvard make" high neck, long or short sleeve Vests and knee or ankle length Tights, in all sizes; the 75c grade, on sale at..... **50c**

LADIES' LOW NECK VESTS.

Ladies' sleeveless, low neck French ribbed White Vests; best 15c grade; all sizes, on sale at..... **8 1/2c**

Ladies' low neck, sleeveless Vests, with plain loop or lace trimmed neck and armholes; all sizes, a 20c grade..... **12 1/2c**

Ladies low neck, sleeveless Vests; all sizes; a great variety to pick from; all our best 25c values, on sale at..... **19c**

All our Ladies' 35c sleeveless Vests, in plain or fancy, white or colored, go on sale at..... **25c**

CHILDREN'S UNDERWEAR.

Children's low neck, sleeveless Vests; all sizes; the 15c grade, on sale at..... **9c**

The 20c grade on sale at..... **12 1/2c**

Children's Drawers, lace trimmed on bottom, all sizes; 25c values, at..... **15c**



WE HAVE NEVER GIVEN YOU GREATER VALUES IN

Than These. You can best measure the standard of this week's offerings by the above statement. Further comments are superfluous.

\$15.00 for Tailor Made Suits.

A sale which will attract wide attention—Twenty different styles. They are made up of fancy Panamas, light-colored Serges, fancy Suitings and fine Broadcloths, etc., etc. Models that usually sell at \$25.00 and \$30.00.

\$12.50 for Silk Shirt Waist Suits.

Some of the prettiest models shown this season; plain and changeable taffeta, fine quality, all colors and black. Made like any \$20.00 model.

\$10.00 for Fine Silk Coats.

Made in the new box pleated effect, Taffeta and Pongee Silk, handsomely trimmed with Silk Braid, unlined, extra full sleeve, regular values \$15.00 and \$17.50.

\$5.00 for Peau de Soie Silk Coats.

27 inches long, loose back and front, collarless style, made of good quality Peau de Soie Silk, broad shoulder effect, braid trimmed, newest sleeves, come in Black only, sold regular for \$7.50.

\$11.00 for Silk Lined Voile Skirts.

Just 25 of them for this week's selling. Material is finest quality French Voile, in the new pleated effect over heavy quality Taffeta Skirt Drop. You will have to pay \$17.50 elsewhere.

\$7.75 for Panama Walking Skirts.

In Blue, Black and Brown, made in new colonial style, front and back gore, side plaited side gores, \$10.50 and \$13.75 values.

\$4.98 for Panama Walking Skirts.

This is a Special Lot, and we doubt whether they will last all week; made of extra good quality Panama cloth, in Blue, Brown and Black, made in the new pleated effect; \$8.75 is the regular value.

\$3.95 for Brilliantine Walking Skirts.

Just received a lot of Skirts, in Brilliantine and light-weight Serges, prettily made and trimmed, this season's latest styles; none worth less than \$5.00, some worth to \$6.00.

75c for White Lawn Waists.

Trimmed with small rows of Pin tucks and Lace insertion, full cuffs; tucked dress sleeves with deep cuffs; they were bought to retail at \$1.15.

\$4.44 for Taffeta Silk Petticoats.

Made with deep plaited flounce, finished with tucked ruffle, extra well finished tucked ruffle; come in all colors and black; they are our \$6.50 and \$7.50 values.

\$1.50 for Mercerized Satin Petticoats.

Made of good mercerized Satin, deep umbrella flounce hemmed bottom, flounce trimmed with three bias ruffles; all sizes; would be cheap at \$2.50.

75c for Percale House Wrappers.

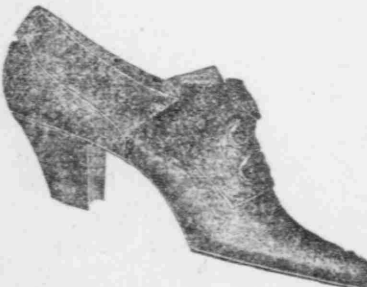
Extra good quality Percale Wrappers, made with ruffles over shoulders, trimmed with washable braid, separate waist lining; come in Blue, Red and Black ground with stripes; sizes 32 to 44; \$1.00 and \$1.25 grades.

EXTRA SPECIAL FOR MONDAY, ALL DAY

\$1.25 and \$1.50 Long Kimonos at73c Each.....

200 Long Kimonos made of fine grade Pineapple cloth in the Oriental designs; another style made of Dimity Lawn in plain and fancy colors very attractive garments; all sizes. Remember, Monday only, at **73c Each**

Savings Worth While on SHOES



LADIES' FINE GRADE VICI KID SHOES with extension or light soles, French or Cuban heels, EXTRA VALUE AT \$3.00. OUR SALE PRICE **\$2.65**

LADIES' OUTING SHOE, made of the best box calf leather, with heavy soles and military heels. THIS SHOE IS MADE FOR HARD WEAR. WORTH \$2.00. SALE PRICE **\$1.60**

LADIES' DRESS OXFORDS, Brown or Black, Cuban heels and turn soles. Worth \$2.25. Sale Price **\$1.65**

WE WILL SELL ANY \$2.50 OR \$2.75 Ladies Oxford in the house FOR ONE WEEK ONLY AT **\$2.15**

ALL PARTY AND EVENING SLIPPERS on sale this week at SPECIAL CUT PRICES.

Particularly Good News of HOUSEKEEPING LINENS.

Glance down the Line of Prices and you'll find you never bought Goods of these Values at the prices before F. Auerbach & Bro. gave you this Bargain choice!

1000 yds. Checked Linen Glass Toweling in blue and white or red and white checks, 17 inches wide—Value 12 1/2c. Special for this week, per yard **7 1/2c**

100 Doz. Towels Included in the lot are Heavy, Turkish Bath Towels, 50 inches long, 22 inches wide, and all Linen Hemmed Double Satin Damask Table Linen—pure flax, without dressing in fleur de Lis, pansy, Tiger Lily and Marguerite patterns. Value \$1.10. Special for this week, a yard **72c**

5 Pieces of 70 inch wide, extra Heavy Silver Bleached Double Satin Damask Table Linen—pure flax, without dressing in fleur de Lis, pansy, Tiger Lily and Marguerite patterns. Value \$1.10. Special for this week, a dozen **\$1.15**

IMPORTANT MILLINERY SPECIALS.

YES, WE'VE TOO MANY MODERATE PRICED, TRIMMED HATS, BUT WE WON'T HAVE SATURDAY EVENING, for no thoughtful woman with a possible Hat need will let this opportunity pass. Every Hat is excellently made of good quality material, and is an unmatchable bargain at its present price. Nothing but a determination to reduce the stocks enormously, and do it in one week could have brought you these economies.

You will find all our \$8.00 to \$12.00 Hats have been reduced and placed in great bargain groups for you to choose from at **\$5.00, \$6.00, \$7.00, \$8.00 and \$9.00 each**

BUTTERICK PATTERNS ARE THE BEST.

Nowhere else in Salt Lake but of us. Reduced to 10c, 15c, 20c. None higher. None better.

MORE CHANCES FOR PROFITABLE CURTAIN BUYING.

Read how easy we make the financial side for you this week. The most beautiful of curtains within reach of most everybody.

One hundred pair Empire effect Scotch Lace Curtains, in white or cream, one of the newest designs, good \$2.00 values; this week, per pair..... **\$1.30**

Three lines of \$2.50 Curtains, in Scotch Net, Ruffled Bobbinet and Madras Cotton Curtains; special this week, per pair..... **\$1.48**

The latest style Arabian colored Gothic Curtains, a strong Cable Net, unmatchable for its wearing qualities, size 24x50, worth \$4.00; special this week, per pair..... **\$2.85**

Double Corded Reversible Arabian Corded Bonne Femme Curtains, a strong Cable Net, finished with a 12-inch shirred dounce at bottom, value \$8.00; special for this week at..... **\$3.95**

SPECIAL IN BOYS' CLOTHING WITH SNAP AND STYLE

You surely won't ignore such savings as these.

Boys' Norfolk and Square Cut Suits.

Neatly tailored in mixed tweeds and chevrons, ages 3 to 16 years. These suits are not to be duplicated for less than \$3.00; a special leader for this week, at..... **\$2.00**

Boys' Knee Pants Suits.

In Euster Brown Norfolk and square-cut styles, neat and nobby suits for best ages 3 to 16 years, worth \$5.00; special this week, at..... **\$3.50**

Youths' Long Pants Suits.

In double-breasted square-cut styles, made up in dark and light tweeds, ages 15 to 20 years, worth \$5.00; values; special this week, at..... **\$4.95**

Youths' Long Pants Suits.

In fine imported tweeds and chevrons, ages 15 to 20 years, worth \$10.00; special this week, at..... **\$7.50**